

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-47. (canceled)

48. (new) A variable reflectance rearview mirror for a vehicle, comprising:

- a variable reflectance mirror element having a reflectivity that varies in response to an applied potential so as to exhibit at least a high reflectance state and a low reflectance state;
- a hydrophilic coating applied to a front surface of said mirror element; and
- wherein the variable reflectance rearview mirror exhibits a high reflectance state to a low reflectance state ratio of greater than approximately 2.5:1.0.

49. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a high reflectance state to a low reflectance state ratio of greater than approximately 3.2:1.0.

50. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a high reflectance state to a low reflectance state ratio of greater than approximately 3.3:1.0.

51. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a high reflectance state to a low reflectance state ratio of greater than approximately 4.3:1.0.

52. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a high reflectance state to a low reflectance state ratio of greater than approximately 5.0:1.0.

53. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a high reflectance state to a low reflectance state ratio of greater than approximately 6.5:1.0.

54. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a C* value of less than about 25.

55. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a C* value of less than about 20.

56. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a C* value of less than about 15.

57. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a C* value of less than about 10.

58. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a C* value of greater than approximately 20 in one or more of a high reflectance state and a low reflectance state only if b* contributes to at least approximately 50% of the C* value.

59. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said mirror exhibits a C* value of greater than approximately 20 in one or more of a high reflectance state and a low reflectance state only if b* contributes to at least approximately 75% of the C* value.

60. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said hydrophilic coating includes a layer of a photocatalytic material.

61. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 60, wherein said photocatalytic layer comprises TiO_2 .

62. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said hydrophilic coating comprises a layer of SiO_2 .

63. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 48, wherein said hydrophilic coating comprises a color suppression coating.

64. (new) The variable reflectance rearview mirror according to claim 63, wherein said color suppression coating comprise at least one of TiO_2 , SiO_2 , tin oxide, and tin doped indium oxide.